
From: jklandry88@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 4:28 PM
To: House & Governmental Affairs; Marinovich, Lauren
Subject: Lafayette Roadshow Testimony
Attachments: Landry Roadshow Testimony.pdf

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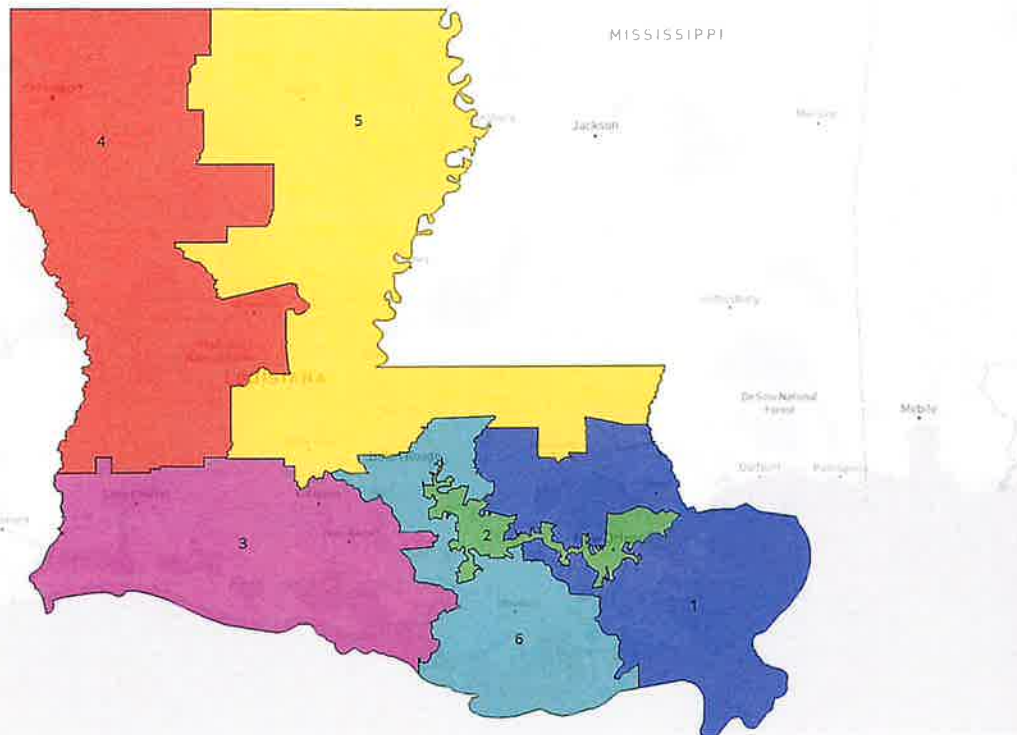
Please accept the attached as testimony for tomorrow's redistricting roadshow hearing in Lafayette. Please let me know if you will need additional data (including block equivalency files) for the draft maps.

Thank you in advance for your attention.

Jordan K. Landry, PhD

Roadshow Testimony and Congressional Draft Plans, 10/26/21

Jordan Landry, PhD



Scenario 1: Vertical North, 1 Minority District

Even if "least change" from 2010 desirable (vertical 4th/5th, only one minority district), final 2010 map was very messy in terms of splitting, cracking/packing, communities of interest, etc. (even among range of maps that would have been plausible with GOP trifecta at the time) – 2020 should do some cleaning up

District-by-district:

First: Gives up rest of Terrebonne/Lafourche/Grand Isle to Sixth, most of Hammond to Fifth; picks up areas in River Parishes, all of Livingston
Possible variant: trade River Parishes precincts for Lakeview and adjacent parts of New Orleans

Second: Pulls out of north Baton Rouge, but remains majority-Black (53.1% Black/31.6% White total, 50.7% Black/34.8% White VAP)

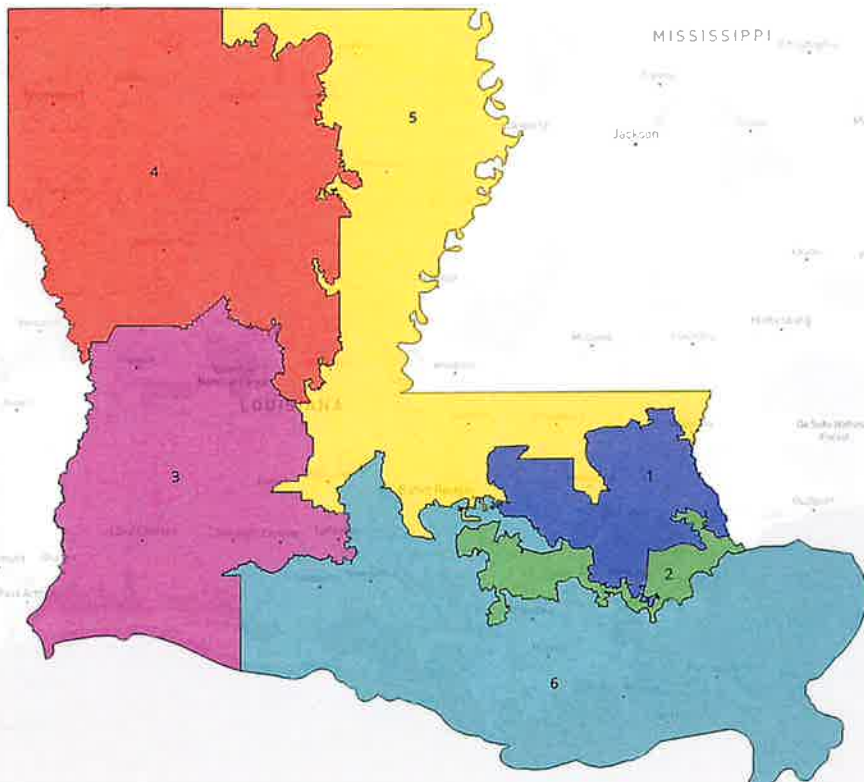
Third: Loses precincts in St. Martin to Sixth, but otherwise little change

Fourth: Trades certain parishes with Fifth, including picking up Rapides in exchange for Evangeline and portion of St. Landry

Fifth: More respect for parish lines throughout; also picks up Pointe Coupee and Hammond

Sixth: More emphatically a "BR and bayou" district; picks up north Baton Rouge, Grand Isle, balance of Terrebonne/Lafourche

Population deviation: 0.08%



Scenario 2: Vertical North, 2 Minority Districts

Probably the least change that gets two minority districts, but still some notable shifts

District-by-district:

First: More emphatically a Pontchartrain/Florida Parishes-based district

Second: Out of north Baton Rouge, into minority precincts in Slidell, still majority-Black (53.3% Black/33.4% White total, 51.0% Black/36.3% White VAP)

Third: Keeps Lafayette and Lake Charles together, but trades current eastern half for parishes west/south of Alexandria

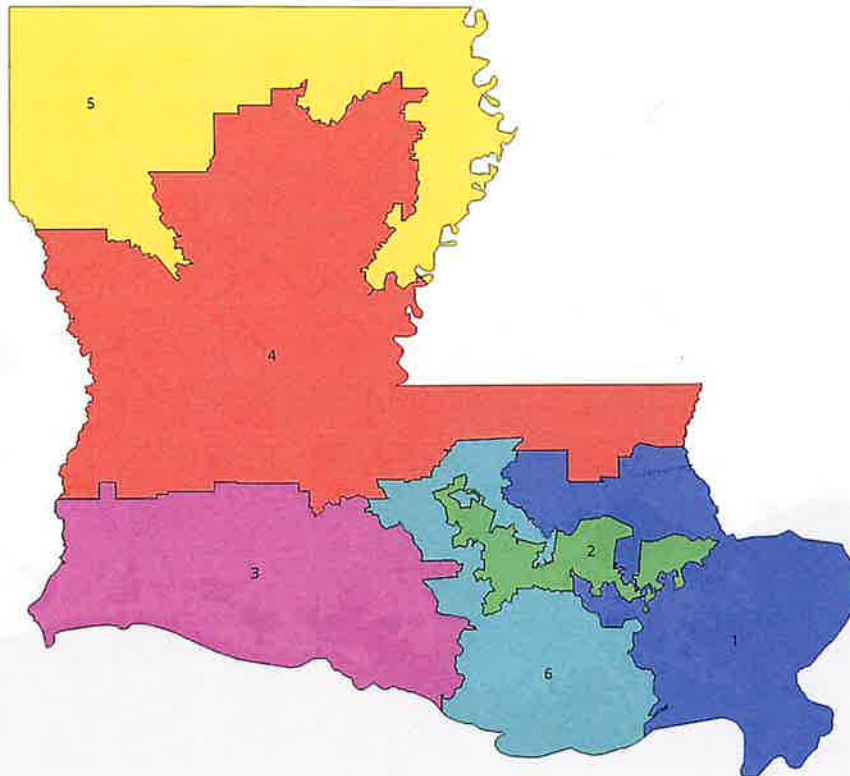
Fourth: Still "northwestern" district, but more square than vertical

Fifth: "Narrower" along Mississippi River, but picks up Opelousas, north BR, and Hammond to make second majority-Black district (53.4% Black/39.9% White total, 50.7% Black/42.8% White VAP)

Sixth: Becomes "coastal" district (Vermilion to St. Bernard)

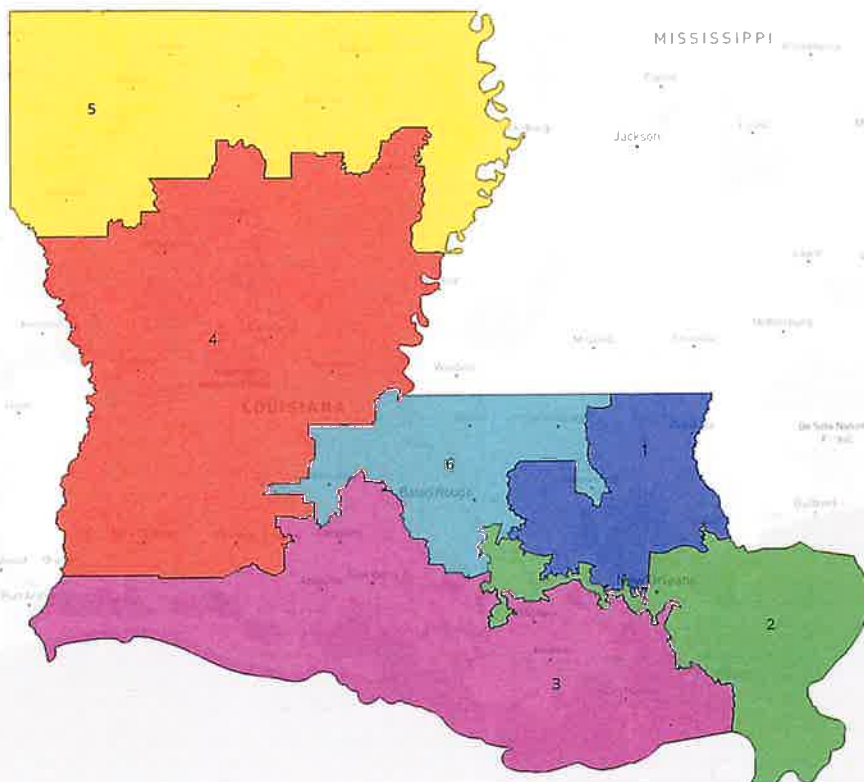
reminiscent of mid-20th century and pre-2010 versions of Third

Population deviation: 0.05%



Scenario 3: Horizontal North, 1 Minority District

- Similar to Scenario 1, except Fourth/Fifth become horizontal Cenla/I-20 districts
- If I-20 district drawn to reach down to Natchitoches and Concordia Parish (shown), can construct possible Black-influence district (42.3% total, 39.9% VAP)
 - JBE would have won district in 2019 runoff
- Population deviation: 0.06%



Scenario 4: Horizontal North, 1.5 Minority Districts

If two-minority-district plan unworkable, this may be a good compromise
District-by-district:

First: Pontchartrain/Florida Parishes district (similar to Scenario 2)

Second: Out of north BR; picks up St. Bernard, Black precincts in Slidell and Plaquemines Parish (52.7% Black/32.7% White total, 50.4% Black/35.7% White VAP)

Third: Drops Lake Charles, becomes Cameron-to-Plaquemines coastal district

Variant: If Cameron must stay with Lake Charles, trade for more of Acadia

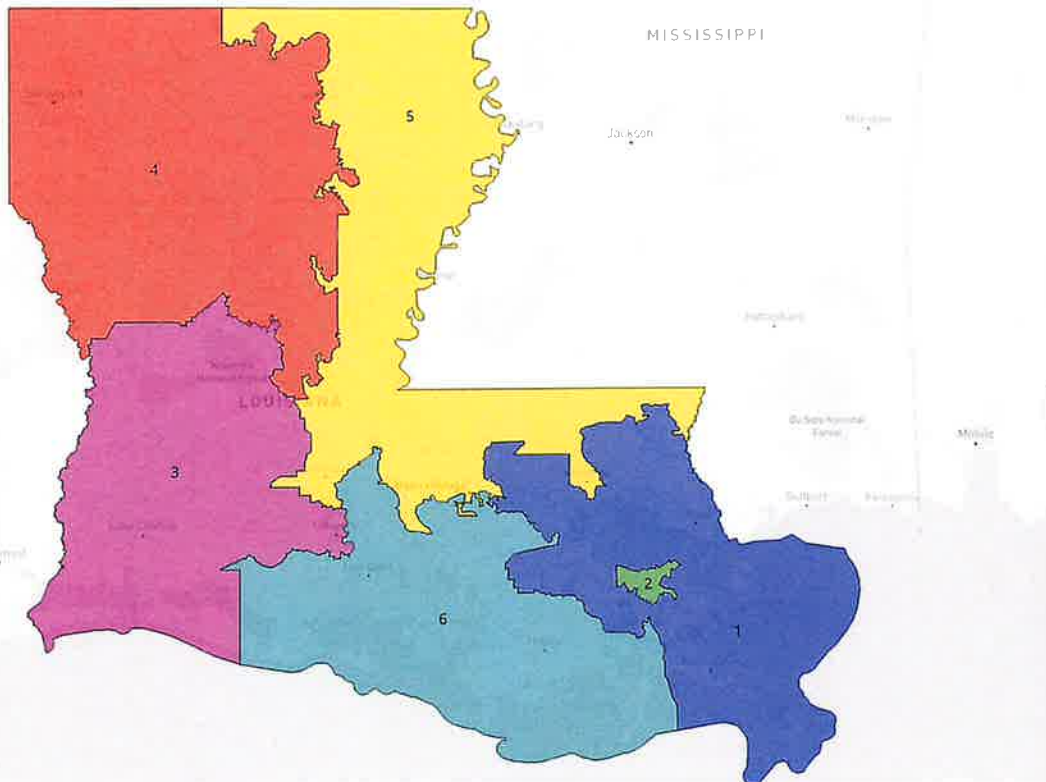
Fourth: "US 165 district," Lake Charles/Alexandria/areas south of Monroe

Fifth: "I-20 district"

Variant: Reach into Nat./Concordia as in Scenario 3

Sixth: "US 190" Black-influence district (43.3% total/41.0% VAP); likely a true swing district (Biden wins 49.9%-48.4% in 2020)

Population deviation: 0.06%



Scenario 5: 1.5 Minority Districts, Unprotect NOLA

Who says the main minority-opportunity district *must* be in NOLA?

At least for federal elections, are there enough white crossover voters in New Orleans that the racial bloc voting precondition in *Gingles* does not apply?

Plan similar to Scenario 2, except:

First: Similar setup to status quo and/or Scenario 1
Second: Entirely within core of Orleans and Jefferson; becomes Black-plurality, minority-coalition-majority district

Total: 40.0% White, 41.9% Black, 13.4%

Hispanic

VAP: 43.2% White, 39.7% Black, 12.2% Hispanic

2020: Biden 63.4%-34.8%

Additional Notes

- Even if range of passable plans was limited (GOP trifecta, two northern districts, only one minority-majority district, incumbent protection), post-2010 final map was messy at best and inferior to other proposals – new map can definitely do some cleaning up, even in a least-change option
 - How compact is “compact,” anyway?
 - This will go a long way in determining whether a two-minority-district map is feasible – if target minority population isn’t “compact,” Gingles preconditions not met for second minority district
 - Needs to be decided early using some sort of objective measurement
 - Is descriptive representation (minorities represent minorities) or substantive representation (minorities get what they want/need) more important?
 - Is there a point in having “one (two?) of your own” if doing so guarantees they’ll always be voted down?
 - Does 2MM merely transfer racial bloc voting dynamic (see *Gingles* preconditions) from voters to legislature?
 - Do you want 2MM at the potential (likely?) cost of six uncompetitive races, or is it better to hold on to 1MM and have the “spare” minority populations play “kingmaker” and make other districts more competitive?
 - Northern districts (Fourth/Fifth) should be made horizontal if possible
 - Fourth/Fifth already reach Calcasieu/Lafayette lines, and the North is still losing population – any further southward expansion would violate cultural geography
 - Transportation (I-10, I-20, US 90, etc.), cultural arrangements in LA primarily go east-west – congressional district should follow
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